

making a determination. And I am being real honest with you. I mean we have got to decide that this is a power struggle between two different interests trying to find a third impartial individual to make a determination, and so for a couple of different reasons, there is some concerns on some of our part with the public counsel. It may not be legitimate, whatsoever. I don't want to say anything negative whatsoever about that individual in general because he is an outstanding person, but I think I have that uncomfortable feeling from the experiences I have had in the last year on the committee that I don't feel that that would be a real fair way to go. And, yet, my idea, which would be a typical response and one that I think people would agree to has also got its problems, and I don't know if Senator Goodrich's idea has some merit or not, as well, and I think, obviously, we are struggling on the floor here trying to figure out what the best course of action is, and all agree that something has to be done. It is not a very good way to legislate, frankly, but I don't know what more to say other than that is the reasons I will, at this time, oppose the Bernard-Stevens amendment, but recognize his good intentions and the desire to move forward in an area that we have to try and find a solution to.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Kristensen, on the amendment.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Senator Bernard-Stevens, could I ask you some questions, please? And if you don't know, Senator Chambers, maybe you could help with these. It might be some questions you....

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I will do the best I can, Senator.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: This amendment would apply for a prospective view from now on, is that correct, to handle disputes in the future?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That would be correct and, of course, I would think if there is a dispute today, it would also be, could be a dispute in the future, and so, therefore, that would apply as well.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, what is going to be the cutoff time for when this amendment would take effect?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I guess I don't follow your question.